

53. The system as claimed in claim 41, the carrier being formed from polycarbonate.

5 54. The system as claimed in claim 41, at least one of the wells having a frustoconical configuration.

55. A carrier comprising:

at least one well; and

10 a cavity adapted to retain a specimen-handling tool so that the specimen-handling tool is disposed about at least a portion of the well.

56. The carrier as claimed in claim 55 comprising a first well and a second well.

15 57. The carrier as claimed in claim 55 further comprising a plug disposed in the well.

58. The carrier as claimed in claim 55 further comprising an overlying member positioned adjacent to the carrier so that the overlying member is disposed over at
20 least a portion of the well.

59. The carrier as claimed in claim 58, the overlying member being disposed over at least a portion of the cavity.

25 60. The carrier as claimed in claim 55 further comprising indicia disposed on the carrier.

61. The carrier as claimed in claim 55, the carrier being substantially rectangular in shape.

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62. The carrier as claimed in claim 55, the well having a frustoconical configuration.

63. A specimen handling tool comprising:

a pair of cooperating arms, each arm comprising

a tip portion,

a rear portion, the arms being joined to each other at their rear

5 portions to form a joined end,

a rearward arcuate portion,

a forward arcuate portion, and

an intermediate arcuate portion disposed between the rearward

arcuate portion and the forward arcuate portion, the arcuate portions being

10 configured so that the area disposed between the pair of arms is approximately
hour-glass in shape, at least one tip portion comprising a flat surface.

64. The specimen-handling tool as claimed in claim 63, at least one tip portion
comprising a fork.

15 65. The specimen-handling tool as claimed in claim 63, the specimen-handling
tool being formed from polycarbonate.

20 66. The specimen-handling tool as claimed in claim 63, the joined end of the
specimen-handling tool being configured as a projection.

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